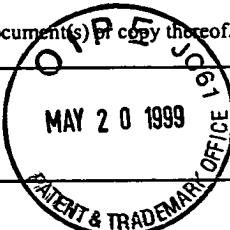


RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET
PATENTS ONLY

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original document(s) or copy thereof.



1. Name of conveying party(ies) (assignor(s)):
Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada As Represented by the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? yes no2. Name and Address of Party(ies) receiving an interest (assignee(s)):Name: Novus International, Inc.Address: 530 Maryville Center Drive, Inc.City: St. Louis, MissouriState: _____ Zip: 63141Country: USAAdditional name(s) & address(es) attached? yes no

3. Nature of Conveyance:

 Assignment Merger Change of Name Verified Translation Security Agreement Other _____Execution Date: May 12, 19994. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date(s) of the application is: _____

A. Patent Application No(s).08/900,414B. Patent No(s).Others on additional sheet(s) attached? Yes No5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Edward J. Hejlek, Reg. No. 31,525
 Senniger, Powers, Leavitt & Roedel
 One Metropolitan Square
 16th Floor
 St. Louis, Missouri 63102
 (314) 231-5400 (telephone)

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:Application(s) 1 + Patent(s): 0 = Total 17. Total Fee (37 CFR 3.41) \$ 40.00 Enclosed Authorized to be charged to deposit account8. Deposit Account Number: 19-1345

(Duplicate copy of this sheet attached)

 Charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to
above Deposit Account

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9. Statement and signature

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Edward J. Hejlek

Name of Person Signing

Signature

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document:

COPY

ASSIGNMENT

**WHEREAS, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF CANADA AS
REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD
(hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNOR") owns rights in a United
States patent filed July 25, 1997 and issued Serial No.**

08/900,414;

**AND, WHEREAS, Novus International, Inc. of St. Louis,
Missouri, a corporation of the State of Delaware (hereinafter
referred to as "NOVUS") is desirous of acquiring certain rights
thereunder;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, for one dollar and other good and valuable
consideration, receipt of all of which is hereby acknowledged,
the ASSIGNOR agrees to and does hereby sell, assign and transfer
unto NOVUS its entire right, title and interest in and throughout
the United States of America (including its territories and
dependencies) and all countries foreign thereto in and to said
invention, said United States application, any other United
States applications (including divisional, continuing or reissue
applications) based in whole or in part on said United States
application or in whole or in part on said invention, any foreign
applications based in whole or in part on any of the aforesaid
United States application or in whole or in part on said
invention, and any and all patents (including extensions thereof)
of any country which have been or may be granted on any of the
aforesaid applications or on said invention or any part thereof;**

**TO BE HELD AND ENJOYED by NOVUS, its successors and assigns,
as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and**

enjoyed by the ASSIGNOR had no sale and assignment of said interest been made;

AND THE ASSIGNOR hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents of the United States of America to issue any and all United States patents which may be granted upon said United States applications or any of them, or upon said invention or any part thereof, to NOVUS;

AND THE ASSIGNOR hereby agrees for itself and for its respective heirs, executors and administrators, to execute without further consideration any further lawful documents and any further assurances, and any divisional, continuing, reissue, or other applications for patents of any country, that may be deemed necessary by NOVUS fully to secure to NOVUS its interest as aforesaid in and to said invention or any part thereof, and in and to said several patents or any of them;

AND THE ASSIGNOR hereby covenants for itself and its respective legal representatives that it has granted no right or license to make, use or sell said invention, to anyone except NOVUS, that prior to the execution of this deed its right, title and interest in said invention had not been otherwise encumbered, and that it has not executed and will not execute any instrument in conflict herewith.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF CANADA
AS REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTER OF
AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD

12 May 99
Date

P A Burnett
Name
Acting Director
Title

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA)
COUNTY OF LESHPRODOL)

On this 10th day of May, 1999, before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared DR PETER A. MURNETT to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing assignment and acknowledged that he executed same as his free act and deed.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal the date and year last above written.


Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

31 May 1999